Town Meeting Coordinating Committee Meeting of Friday, October 16, 2009

Bangs Community Center, room 101

Attendance: Peggy Roberts, Nonny Burack (departed 6:03), Mary Streeter, Carol Gray (arrived 5:25), Harry Brooks, Rob Crowner; absent: Dorwenda Bynum-Lewis

- 1. Peggy calls the meeting to order at 4:36pm.
- 2. **Minutes of previous meeting**: The minutes of the October 9, 2009, meeting were approved as amended on the handout distributed at this meeting.
- 3. Ad hoc budget motion committee: Peggy states that Stephanie O'Keeffe has suggested holding the first meeting of the ad hoc budget motion committee on the first Wednesday evening after the conclusion of Town Meeting, since all delegates to the committee will already have that day and time set aside. Nonny agrees to reserve space on November 18 (the next likely date would be December 2) from 5:15pm. Mary suggests using Doodle.com for scheduling future meetings.
- 4. **Warrant review**: Peggy states that she has received six evaluations from the warrant review and summarizes them as mostly positive with some remarks about length and debate. Attendance was low, but there were at least two other events that probably drew away some of the audience. It is also speculated that people are getting used to watching the warrant review on television. Harry states that ACTV reported a good recording.

Mary will attempt to secure copies of the visual aids used by presenters in order to post them on the Town Meeting webpage.

5. **Bus tour**: Harry states that school district transportation coordinator Peter Crouse confimed to him that a bus driver had been assigned to do the bus tour and has keys in hand.

Carol states that she plans to invite two members of the Planning Board, representing differing viewpoints on some of the zoning articles, to speak during the bus tour. Peggy states that there have been complaints about advocacy in past events, in contradiction of TMCC's charge, and cautions that both "sides" should be represented if either is.

Mary states that she has received complaints about too many stops requiring disembarking and reboarding of the bus. Peggy notes that if the weather is cold and rainy, as is forecast, these stops will be even more problematic. Harry states that in case of rain, ACTV can film from inside the bus -- but only when it is stopped.

The committee discusses possible stops for the bus tour, based on a draft itinerary prepared by Carol. Based on feedback received, Carol will finalize the itinerary and Harry will plot a route.

6. **Informational forum**: Peggy reads a summary of the agenda that Carol has relayed to the speakers she has lined up, including two representatives from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, a representative from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the executive director of the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance.

Harry will make arrangements for setup of the Town Room. Carol and Peggy will introduce the program and the speakers. Carol expects to receive copies of the speakers' powerpoint presentations in advance. If ACTV will be broadcasting the forum live, a phone number will be provided for viewers to call in questions from home.

- 7. **Second packet**: Mary will add a sidebar defining usage codes to the the zoning abbreviations document created by Rob, who will forward that updated document along with the informational forum flyer to be created by Carol to Kate Seaman for inclusion in the second Town Meeting packet.
- 8. **Publicity**: Mary states that upcoming events are on the Town Meeting and TM discussion listservs and the town website. Harry has requested that they be listed on the ACTV scroll, but as yet they have not been. Rob states that attendance of the Precinct 9 meeting was very low and that the school custodians did not seem to have been notified of the reservation.
- 9. **Pictures of old Town Meetings**: Harry will look for pictures at the town archive at UMass. Mary will get good prints of the photocopies she brought to an earlier TMCC meeting. Peggy requests that all materials be brought to next week's TMCC meeting for assembly into a display.
- 10. The meeting is adjourned at 6:25pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 23, 2009.

Respectfully submitted, Rob Crowner

Documents distributed at the meeting:

- 1. agenda
- 2. draft minutes of October 9, 2009
- 3. draft itinerary for bus tour